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Wherever the human heart beats, or freedom breathes, there is sympathy with suffering and the oppressed; a sympathy, it is true, not always on the alert, but as expansive as humanity itself when aroused by that one touch of nature that makes the whole world kin. There is a sympathy with the negro, as with the rest of mankind, natural to man, based on the eternal sympathies of the human heart, which leads us to condole with his sufferings, and disposes us to aid in his relief. This feeling, however natural in its origin, is apt, with many, to get entire possession of the heart, to the banishment of all other kindly sympathy for the rest of the brotherhood of mankind. While such are indefatigable in their efforts to clothe the infant Hottentot, that he may simmer in warm flannel, they have not a rag to spare for the pale nakedness shivering at home.

This negro sympathy, moreover, is kept in a state of unnatural and unwholesome excitement by means familiar to organised agitation. This state is one of smouldering enthusiasm, a fire never allowed to go out and ready to blaze forth into a spreading flame of fanaticism upon the smallest stir or lightest breath of excitement. The appearance of Uncle Tom aroused this anti-slavery enthusiasm and called into play all its intense

energy. Agitation set to work all its busy activities, marshalled its proselytising host, rallied around Mrs. Stowe, and, taking the world by surprise, planted Uncle Tom high on the vantage ground of popular preëminence. Much of the wonderful popularity of this book is alone to be accounted for by the enthusiasm of the anti-slavery feeling, which has succeeded in doing for Uncle Tom what the enthusiasm for genius has never done for any book. Thus much for the two hundred thousand copies of Mrs. Stowe's book sold in the United States.

The same cause has operated in England with double effect. Ever since the agitation of the question of Negro Emancipation by the Wilberforces and Clarksons of England, the abolition of slavery has been a religion with the people of Great Britain, an active, ever busy, restlessly agitating faith. The anti-slavery enthusiasm in England is such as to resist every obstacle, to endure no opposition, to allow no consideration of State policy, and no sense of expediency to oppose its progress or to refuse its importunate demands. It expressed its force in the irresistible summons to the British Parliament to set free the slaves in the English colonies, and the English government acknowledged its power, when it unwillingly yielded, in spite of its own sense of political expediency, the emphatic protests of vested interests, the cost of a hundred million of dollars, and the ruined prosperity of a large and rich portion of British domain. The same anti-slavery enthusiasm on the part of the English people has forced the British Government to embroil itself in a perpetual warfare with Brazil and Spain, at an enormous expenditure of life and money, in its attempts to prohibit the African slave trade. We have had a taste in this country of the English anti-slavery proselytising spirit in the distasteful presence of that spouting philanthropist, Thompson, sent out by the busy energies of his overzealous countrymen and countrywomen to agitate and disturb American opinion. There can be little doubt of the existence of an anti-slavery enthusiasm in Great Britain sufficient to swell the triumph of an anti-slavery book at the small expense of sixpence a copy, to a sale of four hundred thousand. It is our deliberate conviction that a greater excitement could be got up in England in behalf of the emancipation of Africans than perhaps for any other purpose short of cutting the throats of their countrymen and brothers, the Hottentots, or their near relatives, the East Indians.

We hold that the first impulse to the popularity of Uncle Tom came from the anti-slavery sentiment in the United States and England; that popularity now *crescit eundo*; the book is borne along by its momentum. The curiosity awakened by so great a popularity in the first instance, stimulates interest, and readers flock in and follow the crowd. Leading organs of opinion deliver their oracular judgments. For example, the London Times, ever on the alert to record the incidents of the hour, comments upon the popularity of Uncle Tom, a fact which its ever wakeful eye cannot fail to notice and which its popular sympathy forces it to appreciate. This again encourages the excitement, and with a certain impetus once gained, who can foretell the issue?

"As on the smooth expanse of crystal lakes
The sinking stone, at first a circle makes;

The trembling surface, by the motion stirr'd,
Spreads in a second circle, then a third;
Wide, and more wide, the floating rings
advance,
Fill all the watery plain," &c.

Uncle Tom bids fair yet to number its millions of copies and to be immortal from quantity, if not from quality.

The spirit of emotional religion which pervades the book and with the authoress warms into an intensity of pious enthusiasm, finds undoubtedly an eager sympathy in the prevailing faith of a large portion of the religious world. The evangelical sects see in the pious fervor, the spiritual enthusiasm, the sudden conversions, the self-sacrificing lives, the extatic deaths, of Mrs. Stowe's book, the expression of their devotional sentiment and religious faith. They accordingly take Uncle Tom to their warm embrace as a chosen apostle and commend him to the brethren, with the emphatic love of faithful disciples. There are no books in the whole range of literature which have been so widely diffused as the various evangelical works, appealing mostly to religious feeling, such as those of Bickersteth, the editions of which were counted by the tens of thousands even during the life of their author. It has been stated that the little book, Bogatzky's Golden Treasury, has been sold to the extent of several hundreds of thousands.

Its religious character must then be set down as one of the several causes of the enormous popularity of Uncle Tom's Cabin.

The great popularity of Mrs. Stowe's book we attribute to causes extrinsic to the work itself; we are free to confess that it has an intrinsic interest without which the external influences, however great, would have been exercised with less chance of success.

Uncle Tom is a fervid narrative of a succession of startling incidents developed by the evils of slavery, a dark picture of horrors, of revolting cruelty on the one hand and intense suffering on the other, of tyranny and oppression, of the imposition of force and submission of weakness. The whole book, from the first chapter to the last, is a description of such terrible sufferings as never fail to awaken sympathy, and of such cruelties as are always sure to arouse indignation in every human heart. A cruelty, a torture, a wounded affection, a lacerated limb, a mangled body, an agonised mind, a broken heart, a murdered life, need but to be merely stated as occurrences to excite the most profound interest and strongest sympathy. In such obvious appeals to human feeling, the tongue of eloquence need not tell the story, nor the hand of art touch the picture; untaught nature fills the eye and throbs the heart. The newspaper paragraph recording an "awful accident" catches the sight at once and curdles the blood. An incident injurious to life, liberty, or happiness, the natural rights of man of which he is instinctively a defender, provided the incident is believed to be a fact, however simply, in truth the more simply, it may be stated, makes a greater impression upon the mass of mankind than any imaginary horror depicted by art. The murder in the town, the accident in the street, or the suffering in the neighborhood, blurted out by the rudest tongue in conversation, is more appalling than all the imaginary horrors of Dante's Inferno.

As a record of appalling horrors, believed by most readers to have been actual occurrences, Mrs. Stowe's book chiefly takes its

hold upon her large audience. This we believe to be the intrinsic power of the work, which sustains the interest of the multitude, whose first attention has been got by such powerful external influences. It is needless to extract from a book which is in the hands of hundreds of thousands, and from the general acquaintance with it, we can refer to the various characters and incidents of the work as if they were the next door neighbors and the occurrences of the day to our readers.

As for the horrors of the book. Eliza is first threatened with having her darling and only child torn rudely from her motherly embrace and care. By flight she escapes this one horror to involve herself in another, the horror of a supposed eternal separation from her husband. Hunted almost to death, wearied and woe-begone, she by various hairbreadth escapes secures her liberty and that of her child. George's story is full of horrors. A son of a Kentucky gentleman, he was sold after the death of his father, with the dogs, horses, and other chattels. His mother was sold, with her children, and all sold separately, mother and child parted for ever, and brother and brother and brother and sister. They were kicked and beaten for loving each other. George was sold to a cruel master, whipped, scolded, and starved, and had not a friend on earth to love him. Uncle Tom was sold for his master's debts, torn from wife and children and home, manacled and fettered. Sold to a good master only to lose him by death on the eve of being emancipated, and was consequently sold again; beloved by his master's daughter, Eva, only to lose her by an early death. Treated cruelly by a new master, kicked and whipped, taunted, starved and over-worked and finally scourged to death. Cassy's career again was a succession of horrors, tenfold more horrible still. Sold from one debauchee to another, to satiate the fluctuating lusts of gross sensuality, and by force made the victim of a monster of ugliness, lasciviousness, and cruelty. By the way of episodes, we have the horrors of a slave market, lacerating the heart, torturing the affections, and cruelly using the body of human beings. We also have the heart-rending account of a babe stolen in its helplessness and innocence from a mother's bosom, and of that mother stifling her agony in death, beneath the turbid waves of the Mississippi. These are horrors, terrible horrors; there are, moreover, manifold whippings and kickings, torturings, and all imaginable cruelties, such cruelties as curdle the blood and stop the pulsations of the heart. In addition there are no less than a half a dozen deaths, with a proportionate degree of sickness, suffering, wailing, and mourning. It will be seen that the book is a narrative of a succession of heart-rending incidents, such incidents as from their nature, apart from the manner in which they are told, command the attention and excite sympathy. The book appeals strongly to the domestic feelings in its detailed account of the violent rupture of the social and domestic ties, the cruel wresting of the child from its mother, the husband from wife, and father from his family.

Mrs. Stowe has collected together the most exciting incidents of cruelty and suffering, and woven them together in a narrative, which derives its interest and power more from the appalling nature of the supposed facts it narrates than from the art of the narrator.

We are not disposed to deny to the author of Uncle Tom the possession of skill as a writer. Her narrative is fluent, fervid, and emphatic; in her minute and literal description, she shows herself a shrewd observer and an exact painter. Her domestic interiors, Chloe's well-ordered cottage, for instance, and Dinah's ill-ordered kitchen, are painted with a wonderful fidelity and truth, and are evidently copies of what the keen woman's eye and perception of the authoress have observed in reality.

The episode of Eva and Uncle Tom, their religious communings, the kindly sympathy between the old negro and the young and tender child, the gentle sensibility and humanity which softens the relation between mistress and slave into the intimate fellowship between friend and friend, the euthanasia of the one in death, and the resigned grief of the other, are told with a pathetic interest that warms the heart of the reader and fills his eyes with tears. This episode reminds us of a favorite of our youth, a religious tract, a story of deep pathos, by Mrs. Sherwood. Mrs. Stowe has imitated this story, perhaps unconsciously, but the resemblance is so striking that it cannot escape the reader familiar with the two histories of "Little Henry and his Bearer" and Eva and Uncle Tom.

In both stories the scene is laid in a southern country, with descriptions of tropical scenery; in both the main characters are a child and an old servant, between whom the strongest attachment is formed, leading to a mutual affection and friendship, to constant companionship and religious communings. In both the main incident is the same, the death and pious resignation of the child; in both there are several similar subordinate characters and circumstances, for example, a heartless mother, and the incident of cutting the hair, which we give from the two books.

Mrs. Stowe herself seems to have had Mrs. Sherwood's story in her mind, from the following use of the word *bearer* in this sentence. "The friend who knew most of Eva's own imaginings and foreshadowings, was her faithful *bearer** Tom;" this term is exclusively applied to servants in India, where the scene of "Henry and his Bearer" is laid. More to interest our readers than to endeavor to convict a lady of so unladylike a proceeding as a literary theft, we give some extracts from "Uncle Tom" and "Little Henry and his Bearer," in which will be found similar incidents, described in a similar manner. The passages show just such parallelisms as we should expect to find in two works, when one was suggested by the other, without being an actual copy of that other. Mrs. Stowe owes undoubtedly her story of Uncle Tom and Eva, to Mrs. Sherwood's "Little Henry and his Bearer."

LITTLE HENRY AND HIS BEARER—RELIGIOUS COMMUNINGS.

"Once, in particular—it was in one of those lovely places near the Rajamahall hills—Henry and his *bearer* went to walk. Henry's mamma had during the day been very cross to him, and the poor little fellow did not feel well, although he did not complain; but he was glad when he got out of the boat. The sun was just setting, and a cool breeze blew over the water, with which the little boy being refreshed, climbed without difficulty to the top of a little hill where was a tomb. Here they sat down; and Henry

could not but admire the beautiful prospect which was before them. On the left hand was the broad stream of the Ganges, winding round the curved shore, till it was lost behind the Rajamahall hills. The boat, gaily painted, anchored just below them, and with it many smaller boats, with thatched and sloping roofs. The boatmen and native servants, having finished their day's work, were preparing their food, in distinct parties, according to their several *castes*, upon the banks of the river; some grinding their spices, some lighting their little fires, some washing their brass vessels, and others sitting in a circle upon the ground smoking their cocoa-nut pipes. Before them, on the right hand, was a beautiful country abounding with corn-fields, *topes* of trees, thatched cottages with their little bamboo porches, plaintain, and palm-trees; beyond which the Rajamahall hills were seen, some bare to their summits, and others covered with brushwood, which even now afford a shelter to tigers, rhinoceroses, and wild hogs.

"Henry sat silent a long time. At last he said, 'Boosy, this is a good country: that is, it would be a very good country if the people were Christians. Then they would not be so idle as they now are; and they would agree together, and clear the brushwood and build churches to worship God in. It will be pleasant to see the people, when they are Christians, all going on a Sabbath morning to some pretty church, built among those hills, and to see them in an evening sitting at the doors of their houses reading the *shaster*—I do not mean *your shaster*, but *our shaster*—God's book.'

"Boosy answered, that he knew there would be a time when all the world would be of one religion, and when there would be no *caste*; but he did not know when that would be, and he was sure he should not live to see it.

"There is a country now, where there are no *castes*; and where we shall all be like dear brothers. It is a better country than this: there are no evil beasts; there is no more hunger, no more thirst; there the waters are sure; there the sun does not scorch by day, nor the moon smite by night. It is a country to which I sometimes think and hope I shall go very soon; I wish, Boosy, you would be persuaded either to go with me, or to follow me.'

"What!" said Boosy, 'is little master going to England?' And then he said he hoped not; for he could never follow him.

"Henry then explained to him, that he did not mean England, but heaven. 'Sometimes I think,' said he, 'when I feel the pain which I did this morning, that I shall not live long; I think I shall die soon, Boosy.'

UNCLE TOM AND EVA—RELIGIOUS COMMUNINGS.

"St. Clare's villa was an East Indian cottage, surrounded by light verandahs of bamboo-work, and opening on all sides into gardens and pleasure-grounds. The common sitting-room opened on to a large garden, fragrant with every picturesque plant and flower of the tropics, where winding paths ran down to the very shores of the lake, whose silvery sheet of water lay there, rising and falling in the sunbeams—a picture never for an hour the same, yet every hour more beautiful.

"It is now one of those intensely golden sunsets which kindles the whole horizon into one blaze of glory, and makes the water another sky. The lake lay in rosy or golden streaks, save where white-winged vessels glided hither and thither, like so many spirits, and little golden stars twinkled through the glow, and looked down at themselves as they trembled in the water.

"Tom and Eva were seated on a little mossy seat, in an arbor, at the foot of the garden. It was Sunday evening, and Eva's Bible lay open on her knee. She read, 'And I saw a sea of glass, mingled with fire.'

"Tom," said Eva, suddenly stopping, and pointing to the lake, 'there 'tis.'

"What, Miss Eva?"

"Don't you see,—there!" said the child, pointing to the glassy water, which as it rose and fell, reflected the golden glow of the sky, 'There's a "sea of glass, mingled with fire."'

"Where do you suppose new Jerusalem is, Uncle Tom?" said Eva.

"O, up in the clouds, Miss Eva."

"Then I think I see it," said Eva. 'Look in those clouds!—they look like great gates of pearl; and you can see beyond them—far, far off—it's all gold. Tom, sing about "spirits bright."'

"Uncle Tom," said Eva, 'I'm going there.'

"Where, Miss Eva?"

"The child rose, and pointed her little hand to the sky; the glow of evening lit her golden hair and flushed cheek with a kind of unearthly radiance, and her eyes were bent earnestly on the skies.

"I'm going *there*," she said, 'to the spirits bright, Tom; I'm going, before long.'

Mrs. Sherwood.
LITTLE HENRY'S DEATH-BED—THE HAIR CUTTING INCIDENT.

"While Henry was talking to his *bearer* Mrs. Baron had come into the room: but, not wishing to interrupt him, she had stood behind his couch; but now she came forward. As soon as he saw her, he begged her to take off his cap, and cut off some of his hair, as several of his friends wished for some. She thought that she would endeavor to comply with his request. But when she took off his cap, and his beautiful hair fell about his pale, sweet face; when she considered how soon the time would be when the eye that had seen him shall see him no more; she could not restrain her feelings; but throwing down the scissors, and putting her arm round him, 'O my child! my dear, dear child!' she said, 'I cannot bear it! my hair;—there's too much of it, and it makes my head hot. Besides, I want to give some of it away.'

Mrs. Stowe asks "has there ever been a child like Eva?" we answer, yes, very like; little Henry.

Mrs. Sherwood.
THE HEARTLESS MAMMA.

"Mr. and Mrs. Smith once or twice remarked, when they looked at Henry, that the child was very pale, and that his eyes were heavy; but his mamma answered, 'O, it's nothing; the child is well enough; children in India, you know, have that look.'

Mrs. Stowe.
LITTLE EVA'S DEATH-BED—HAIR CUTTING INCIDENT.

"Mamma," said Eva, 'I want to have some of my hair cut off—a good deal of it.'

"What for?" said Marie.

"Mamma, I want to give some away to my friends, while I am able to give it to them myself. Won't you ask aunt to come and cut it for me?"

"Marie raised her voice, and called Miss Ophelia, from the other room.

"The child half rose from her pillow as she came in, and shaking down her long golden-brown curls, said, rather playfully, 'Come, aunt, shear the sheep!'

"What's that?" said St. Clare, who just then entered with some fruit he had been out to get.

"Papa, I just want aunt to cut off some of my hair;—there's too much of it, and it makes my head hot. Besides, I want to give some of it away."

Mrs. Stowe.
THE HEARTLESS MAMMA.

"Miss Ophelia had several times tried to awaken her maternal fears about Eva; but to no avail.

"I don't see as anything ails the child," she would say; 'she runs about, and plays.'

"But she has a cough."

"Cough! you don't need to tell me about a cough."

"Don't be croaking cousin—I hate it!" he would say; 'don't you see the child is only growing. Children always lose strength when they grow fast.'

"But she has that cough!"

"O! nonsense of that cough!—it is not anything. She has taken a little cold, perhaps."

Apart from this resemblance pointed out in scene, character, incident and description, the likeness between the two stories in tone and purpose, is more striking still; it can hardly be described, however, but will be appreciated at once on a comparison of the two books.

The pathos and humor of the book have been, we think, very much overstated. The pathos consists mostly in the simple statement of obvious pathetic incidents, such for example, as the flight of Eliza to save her child. In the description of such incidents, the authoress undoubtedly exhibits a good deal of melo-dramatic earnestness, which impresses the casual reader with a sense of confidence and belief in the narrative.

The humor of the negro character is not of the highest kind, being rude and palpable. The African is a remarkably imitative animal and wherever he is placed in a condition of inferiority in relation to the white man, he indulges with great delight in copying his superior. Thus the white man's action, talk, and dress are imitated with wonderful pertinacity by the negro. This imitation must be more or less rude, and from the humble and subordinate position of the black man gives rise to the most amusing contrasts and grotesque absurdities. The pompous air of assumed dignity, the use of high sounding and fine words oddly distorted and misapplied, the showy dress, ill-assorted in color and ill-adapted to the person, together with the sly consciousness that he is playing a part, make the negro a ludicrous caricature of the white man. This is the chief source of the humor of the negro character. This is the element of the popular performances on the stage and elsewhere, the Jim Crow oddities, the Ethiopian serenaders, the Christy minstrels. This will be found also to be the essence of the humor in Uncle Tom's cabin. It is of a crude and obvious kind, easily intelligible; it requires no delicate sense of perception to understand, no cultivated taste to enjoy. It is a humor wondrously popular, because overflowing with animal spirits and requiring no intellectual effort to appreciate; it supplies a hearty enjoyment while it leaves in undisturbed repose the mental sluggishness of the multitude.

It has been said that Mrs. Stowe in her book paints her Whites too black and her Blacks too white. It is true. The picture is all light and darkness, day and night. It might, perhaps, be urged that if Southern slavery nourished and perfected such models of character, as the pious Tom, the gentlemanly George, and the accomplished Eliza, that Southern slavery, after all, is a blessing to humanity. The true picture of the Southern slave, and perhaps the most powerful argument against Southern slavery, is a laughing, joyous negro, succulent with animal enjoyment gushing forth in unmeasured bursts of merriment, eating, drinking, and singing away life, and insensible to the influ-

ence of an institution which degrades and subjects him. The saddest part of slavery is this insensibility, which is death to the heart, as the surgeon knows that absence of pain is the sure sign of approaching gangrene and destruction. We know that this insensibility exists to a great degree, and that even the rupture of the family ties is suffered apparently with indifference, and that the negro, as he passes through a succession of wives, contemplates a divorce with as much coolness as a conclave of Connecticut legislators. Uncle Tom's Cabin is certainly deficient in that great essential of a work of art, unity of construction. It has not even the cohesion of a simple narrative, but presents two disconnected pictures quite independent of each other.

Will "Uncle Tom" bear a second reading? we would no more care to re-peruse it, than to con over, after a first perusal, the columns of the morning news. We have read the incidents of the book as we have the topics of the day, we have learned the facts, and we have no more to do with the writer who has served his purpose; like the postman, he brings the letter and is forthwith dismissed. All works of art, however, withstand this test of repeated perusal. The reader at each new reading, imbibes an additional idea, catches a new suggestion and is charmed with a fresh beauty:

"Surpris'd he sees new beauties rise,
Swift mantling to the view."

We are not prepared to deny that the motive of Mrs. Stowe in writing her book, has been good, but we are ready to assert that its influence is bad. The social evils of slavery have been exaggerated and presented in a form calculated to excite an inconsiderate popular feeling. A subject which involves the happiness and life of many of our countrymen, and as the newspapers say, "perhaps the national existence of our union," claiming the calm deliberation of wisdom, has been tricked off by a pert saucy in the showy habiliments of a theatrical wardrobe, and displayed with a boldness that knows no reserve and cares for no consequence, to a pernicious and unthinking multitude, to be mocked, jeered, laughed at and wept over with maudlin tears. What the common sense, the statesmanship, the religion, and the humanity of our country have by unanimous consent agreed to allay, Mrs. Stowe has been reckless enough to do her best to excite.

In summing up the causes of the multitudinous success of "Uncle Tom," the anti-slavery feeling, the evangelical religious sentiment, the fondness for horrors, the accumulative force of popularity, and the cheapness, we must not forget the easy intelligibility of the book, coming from obvious sources of interest presented in a commonplace manner. The work tests neither the educated understanding nor the chastened taste of the few, but in its simplicity and directness appealing to the common intelligence of the masses, finds a ready appreciation among its hundreds of thousands of readers in Europe and America.

ARTICLES OF RELIGION OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH.*

It is not often that we have been called upon to examine a book which has given us more

* A History of the Articles of Religion; to which is added a Series of Documents, from A. D. 1536 to 1615; together with illustrations from contemporary sources. By Charles Hardwick, M.A. Philadelphia, H. Hooker. 8vo. pp. 368.

satisfaction than Mr. Hardwick's History of the Articles of Religion. It is written in a clear, manly, straightforward style, and bears all the way through, undoubted marks of the author's ability, learning, and candor. Though the *Literary World* has nothing to do with the questions which divide Christian denominations one from the other, it nevertheless is bound by every honorable consideration, to point its readers to works like the present, which treat of doctrinal matters *historically*,—a mode of treatment, by the way, which affords the only certain ground of attaining safe and solid conclusions. Mr. Hardwick, as a necessary preliminary, gives an abstract of the settled historical fact, that abuses in both doctrine and manners prevailed everywhere anterior to the Reformation; and then shows what course the Church of England saw fit to pursue in her efforts to rid herself of the superincumbent mass of evil and corruption which had well nigh crushed out her very life. In 1534 the papal supremacy was rejected in England, and in 1536 certain articles were drawn up and debated in Convocation, which may be termed the beginning of better things, though far short of what was afterwards seen to be necessary. The XLII Articles of Edward VI., and the Elizabethan Articles of 1562 and 1571, are fully and accurately treated of, together with satisfactory notices of the Augsburg Confession, the Lutheran elements in the English Articles, and the Lambeth Articles of 1595—those celebrated nine, by which it was attempted to make the XXXIX Articles speak out plainly and clearly for Calvinism. Besides these, Mr. H. gives a careful and candid account of the Irish Articles in 1615, the Synod of Dort and the Royal Declaration, the objections to the Articles at different periods, and historical notices of subscription to the Articles. The valuable Appendixes of original documents will be highly appreciated by the student, and form a most important portion of the volume. We had marked a number of choice passages worthy of being quoted; we shall, however, give only one or two extracts which will serve to show the spirit and learning of the author, and the manly style in which he has set forth the truths of history on these important topics.

Speaking of the momentous period of the Reformation, Mr. Hardwick thus expresses himself:—

"It was, indeed, a stirring crisis in the life of Western Europe, when the human soul, starting up from its long torpor and finding itself free, rushed headlong into the wildest mischief or the darkest moral corruption; when the cold-hearted rationalist and the visionary mystic, presuming on their individual powers, overleapt all the boundaries of thought which had been imposed by the sacred Scriptures, and threatened to sweep away in their avenging blindness, not only the mediæval errors, among which they had been nurtured, but also the purer exhibition of the Gospel revived by the Anglican Reformers."

In discussing the point as to the design and authority of the Elizabethan Articles (the present XXXIX.), Mr. Hardwick's statements are lucid and worthy of entire confidence:—

"In the whole course of the investigation, one thought must have been peculiarly impressed on the mind of every reader, as to the strong and uniform connexion subsisting between the articles which we are now called upon to subscribe, and the actual state of the Church at the time of their compilation. This fact, so steadily at-

tested by contemporary writers, to say nothing of evidence supplied by the title of the document itself, cannot fail to have modified our views of its character as a standard of Christian truth. It was manifestly *designed* to be pacificatory, and at the same time polemical; it strove either by silence or by general statements of doctrine, to calm the feverish speculations of the clergy upon a host of debatable questions; while on the other hand it provided a test by which the advocates of absolute errors, whether Romish or Anabaptist, Zwinglian or Puritanical, were excluded from the office of teaching within the jurisdiction of the English Church. To appeal, therefore, to the Articles of Religion as the one single measure of truth, or as a full and formal body of theology, sufficient for all times, is to forget the circumstances of the age in which they were produced; it is to mistake what are justly regarded as a strong though modern bulwark, for the whole of the venerable fortress in which the ark of God is treasured."

MR. SIMMS'S "SWORD AND DISTAFF."

IN Mr. Simms's new novel, we recognise many of the characters of his "Katharine Walton," and, in fact, the "Sword and Distaff," may be termed a continuation of that book, yet between the two works, there is but little similarity. In "Katharine Walton" the author introduced with an unsparing hand, so many anecdotes of the revolutionary times in Charleston, that although interesting to the readers of that latitude, they marred the vitality of the plot for others, and betrayed the author into a superabundance of drawing-room small talk, and scenes of city life, which certainly are not his forte.

Mr. Simms requires breathing room and space for action. In the stirring scenes of wild-wood life, the ambush, the surprise, the bush fight, the camp-fire, and the break-neck hunt, he is pre-eminent. In his descriptions of the rough hewn, and the half polished specimens of backwoods humanity, and in his rendering of their droll vernacular, he is perfect. His negroes are living and breathing specimens of human ebony, filled with the same queer conceits, and speaking with the very tongues of the genuine article. It is evident that he has looked much at life with an humorist's eye, from the windows of a plantation cottage, that he has many a time and oft followed hound and deer through forest and thicket, and over river and swamp in the mad excitement of the chase, and that the love of the free air of heaven, and the passion for the wild sports of the greenwood thus imbibed, have imparted truth, freshness, and life to his pen-drawn pictures.

In the "Sword and Distaff" Mr. Simms has given his fancy fair play in its own proper field, and thereby produced a book probably destined to attain great popularity, and certainly to create infinitely more mirth than any of the acknowledged predecessors of a somewhat numerous literary progeny.

City and city life, receive their *congé* in the first few pages, and the reader is at once plunged into the excitement of a very interesting, if not over-intricate plot, and the enjoyment of an unlimited quantity of pure fun, derived from the sayings and doings of Captain Porgy and his quizzical legion, white and black. Every reader of "Katharine Walton" will recollect in Captain Porgy, the hero of the pot and kettle fight. He is the "Sword" of the present book, and widow

* The "Sword and the Distaff," or "Fair, Fat and Forty." A story of the South at the close of the Revolution, by the author of the Partisan, Mellichampe, &c. Charleston: Walker, Richards & Co.

Eberleigh, the "Distaff." The "Sword" protects the "Distaff" from open violence, and the "Distaff" *en revanche*, saves the "Sword" from ruin, and rescues his estate from the clutches of a treacherous Scotchman. Woman's wit accomplishes what bull-headed courage and obstinacy fail to perform. We are but little troubled with sentimental love scenes; for the occasional amorous passages between the ponderous and languid Porgy and the witty widow, "fair, fat, and forty," will extract few tears, save those of laughter, from any eyes.

Having neither space to devote to a full analysis of the plot, nor room for lengthy extracts of some of the many exciting scenes, we must fain content ourselves and our readers with a few specimens of the philosophy and fun of the humorists of Glen Eberly.

The widow has invited the captain to dine, and although the latter's inner man says "yea" most emphatically to the proposition, the sad condition of the outer man seeks to put in a veto. Porgy is in a fix; the troubles that should have borne upon his mind, seem but to have puffed up his body until his scanty and war-worn wardrobe wants strength to contain so weighty a matter.

But Porgy *must* go, and so before him and his satellites, his remaining rigging is regularly reviewed, coats critically questioned as to their capabilities, and the breaks in breeches cautiously peered into. At last behold—

PORGY "EN GRANDE TOILETTE."

"Look you, maussa," said the cook, as he helped his master on with the coat. "You hab for walk 'traight in dis coat. He ain't so 'trong arter all. You mus' take care and no 'trow yourself 'bout when you at Miss Ebleigh's. Ef you forgit sometime, and 'trow out your arm too wide, you'll breck somewhere, I know; in de sleeb or under de arm, or mout be in de back; an' ef he once begins for go, dere's no stopping 'im. You'll breck all side, I tell you, and de breeches will be for busting out, too; an' dat won't do no how, when you da stan' fore de ladies. Mine wha' I tell you, massa, and walk 'traight track. Be berry preticklar jis when you gitting off de hoss, an' when you's a-walking up de steps, don't you 'tretch out for hol' de bannister, an' when you's a-talking big wid de lady you mustn't tink for raise up you arm to de heabens as ef you was a-calling de sun to be witness for wha' you say. 'Twon't do;—you'll breck out ebberry side ef you gwine try all dem mighty tings. Set down easy in de chair, and don't you go for traddle you legs too wide. I no 'pen 'pon dese breeches at all."

"It's come to a pretty pass, indeed, when such a sooty scamp as you are, Tom, undertakes to teach me how to carry myself in a lady's presence."

"Enty I know?"

"So, you think I had better not lift my leg unadvisedly so—"

"Top, maussa; you sure for bust dem breeches."

"Or throw out my arm, right or left—so?"

"Lawd! massa, don't you, now. De coat ready for pop ebberry way."

"Let's look at you, cappin,' quoth Millhouse, 'and see how you're a-lookin'.' And he walked around his superior, scrutinizing him at every point—'your skairts rether short,' quoth he."

"Do you see the blisters—the leather patches, corporal?" demanded Porgy, quickly.

"N—o," answered the corporal, slowly, peering about cautiously the while; "but as you love your life, cappin, you mustn't bend forward the leetlest, for you ain't got any skairts to spare. Your gairth is so mighty big that it draws up the gairments monstrous high."

As a practical utilitarian philosopher, and man of the world, the corporal in Eugene Aram is far behind Corporal Millhouse. With a keen eye for realities, and a very proper respect for dollars and cents, he holds

MUSIC AND POETRY AT A DISCOUNT.

"You don't know what's useful in the world. You only know what's pleasant, and amusing, and ridiculous, and what belongs to music and poetry, and the soul; and not about the wisdom that makes crops grow, and drives a keen bargain, and swells the money box, and keeps the kiver down. Now, I reckon you'd always get the worst of it at a horse-swap. You'd be cheated with a blind horse, or a spavin'd, and you'd go off on three legs, though you came on four. Now, ef there's wisdom in this world—that is *real* wisdom—it is in making a crop, driving a bargain, getting the upper hand in a trade, and always falling like a cat, on one's legs. As for music, and po'try, and them things, it's all flummery. They don't make the pot bile. I like the fiddle when there's a crowd, and after the day's work's done, and the horses fed; but ef there's one music in the world that's more sweet than another to the ears of a man of sense, it's the music that keeps time to the money coming in."

"There you was always for havin' that fellar, Dennison, about you, eating the lowance of other men, and drinking more than his share of the Jamaica, always—and for what? He wasn't a reasonable useful man. He couldn't cook a steak, or bake a loaf, or sow his own breeches, nor do nothing. He could only joke, sing, and tell ridiculous stories, and make them foolish po'tries,—tink-it-a-tank, tink-it-a-tank—one word knockin' agin another at the end of the line, as I may say, agin' natur—for where do you hear decent, sensible people talking with a bell ringing in their ears all the time? That fellar couldn't keep anything—money, clothes, hat, shoes,—everything went, somehow, nohow, and yit the fellar was such a blasted fool that he never seemed to care about it at all, and would jest keep on laughing and singing, and making his tink-tank, tink-tank, with a sort of sameness that was really provoking."

If our readers would learn how the Captain sped in his wooing, how villainy was defeated, and treachery punished, and a world of other things far too numerous to mention, let them examine for themselves this most amusing book. In conclusion, we would pay a passing compliment to the publishers for the highly creditable style in which their part has been performed.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK, LITERATURE, ETC.

MR. THACKERAY'S Lectures on Congreve, Addison, and "Dick Steele," have fully kept the promise of intellectual entertainment to the town which the name of the skilful novelist implies. The best proof of their tact and infusion of a subtle sympathetic element of attraction, is their success in holding together one of the largest and best picked audiences ever assembled in this city—averaging, through rain and storm and fair weather, at least two thousand, which is some ten times the number which we saw present a few years ago at a course of Carlyle's lectures in London—on a series of topics utterly remote from the reading and experience of nine-tenths of those brought together. Certainly no one would choose Congreve as the subject of a popular lecture for an American audience. Yet Mr. Thackeray interested his company in his dressing up of a "fine gentleman," whose body and substance were as

empty to his listeners as a lay figure or a bran doll. What knew they of

"The nicer touch
Of Wycherley or Congreve's wit?"

They had not read the Old Bachelor, the Way of the World, or Love for Love, and Mr. Thackeray, in that pulpit, was not disposed to read them for them. It was, fine words and skilful innuendos apart, a rather melancholy exhibition of "William Congreve, Esq.," divorced from his wit. Nothing was to be seen of him but a bag-wig, and a pair of high-heeled shoes—alas! for the blood of the Mirabels, the star-struck gaze of Foresight, for Sir Sampson, Miss Prue, Valentine, and the immortal philosophy of his man Jeremy, whose wisdom would have commanded the respect of Chawls Yellowplush, as the country footman in the last *Punch*, submits to the enormous qualities of the Lord Mayor's footman from London. Hazlitt and Lamb have hit upon the only way in which the "comedy of the last century" can be submitted to the gaze of this generation. They held it to be an artificial thing to be artificially considered, a matter of pure literary science, in other words, of wit, and they were disposed to let wit have fair play with its own weapons, thinking the passions in very little danger from these airy abstractions. It is quite too expensive an enticement to get at ordinary vice through the scholarship and facetiae of Congreve, just as it costs too much to acquire a habit of drunkenness on the first quality of Marcobrunner or ruin a constitution by courses of *patés de foie gras*. For all purposes of passion the Froths, Brisks, Tattles are mummies: we may be curious about them, but they can't harm us. They are either nothing or else splendid children of the imagination.

Addison was a strong contrast; he would have fallen in more naturally with his friend Steele. Full justice was done to the amenities and graces of Joseph, not Joseph Surface, but the Spectator. When it came Steele's turn, his pleasant incongruities were touched with that unction for his good qualities which friendship imparts, and that delicate knowledge of his ill qualities which the opportunities of friendship so well convey. Poor Dick was alternately tumbled from the pulpit to the gutter—with abundance of apology, however, and a capital play of a genial humorist's susceptibilities. Justice was hardly done in the word or two given to one of our favorite "failures" of Steele, the little volume of the Lover. It has some of his best papers. Mr. Thackeray, on the other hand, was tender in using the tempting private revelations of Nichols's publication of the Steele Correspondence with "dearest Prue."

The Historical Society have made a change in their Lecture arrangements. The course will commence on Thursday evening, Dec. 9, we understand, with Mr. Everett or Mr. Bancroft; and the price of tickets to the course will be five dollars to members and others.

Kathay; a Cruise in the China Seas, by W. Hastings Macaulay. Putnam.—A narrative of a cruise in a government vessel to China and back, touching at Rio on the passage out, and at the Cape and St. Helena in returning. It is pleasantly written, with glimpses of the sea-port towns accessible to Europeans on the Chinese coast and neigh-

boring islands, but with little on the score of research or romantic adventure to justify the loan of the title "Kathay" from old Mandeville. There is not much of the poetic atmosphere connected with the Orient of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to be found in the English and Portuguese trading towns of Manilla, Hong Kong, and Macao, judging from this book, and beyond these our cruiser does not penetrate.

Cornelius Nepos, with Notes Historical and Explanatory, by Charles Anthon.—The *Vitæ Imperatorum* is an old classic of the school-room worthy of being more generally adopted in our American Academies—to which this thoroughly annotated edition of Dr. Anthon will doubtless speedily carry it. It is a pleasant introduction of the young student to the military men of antiquity—especially with the grammatical peculiarities so smoothly entered upon as in this edition. Due corrections have been made of various geographical and historical points; the literary and biographical matters are ample, collected from the early and late authorities, and the arrangement of the whole has the usual facilities of the editor's practised judgment.

Putnam's semi-Monthly Library has just added to its agreeable miscellany the volume of *Table-Talk on Books, Men, and Manners*, from Sydney Smith and others, published some time since by Chetwood Evelyn, Esq.—A tasteful and enjoyable volume.

Home Scenes and Heart Studies, is a new volume from the almost inexhaustible stock of Grace Aguilar.—A preface tells us it is the last of the series, but an advertisement alongside of it promises us "shortly" another volume of "Miscellanies, Essays, and other Writings."—These books, which still maintain their popularity, owe their reception to a certain youthful warmth of style and enthusiasm of romance and sentiment, which, not uncommon as such qualities are, were quite noticeable in the rapid and almost spontaneous literary productiveness of this young lady.

A year or two since, when the Popish question was in agitation in England, considerable stir was made by a mystified sort of volume of the adventures of "The Female Jesuit, or, the Spy in the Family," which adventures were carried on in the very penetralia of English society, under various romantic disguises. Any reader who may have met with any perplexities touching this heroine, is now promised a clearing up of the same in a volume published by M. W. Dodd, entitled "*A Sequel to the Female Jesuit; containing her previous history and recent discovery.*"

COLBY (Nassau street) has published a translation of *Neander's First Epistle of St. John, Practically Explained*.—The doctrinal element is here paramount with the great historian. The translator, Mrs. H. C. Conant, has added a valuable volume to the stock of purely Christian literature.

M. W. DODD has also given us a translation of *Krummacher's Early Days of Elisha*, with an Introduction by Dr. Spring.—A book of amiable and earnest piety. It is to be followed by other volumes from the same author.

Light in a Dark Valley, by Henry A. Rowland (Dodd), is a discussion of "the false principles which lead many of our fellow-men to live in the neglect of the Gospel," in a brief volume.

Messrs. FRANCIS' new series of Juveniles for the present year, revive some old favorites

in pleasant dresses. We have our old sonorous favorite full of poetry and wisdom and the seclusion which boyhood loves, excellent Dr. Johnson's *Rasselas*, and by the side of it Bernardin Saint Pierre's sentimental *Paul and Virginia*, and the pathetic *Exiles of Siberia* by Madame Cottin—a stock of minor classics which we are glad to see still keep the fashion. In a slightly varied form, in other cheerful little volumes come to us Mrs. Hofland's always interesting *Good Grandmother*, and *The Barbadoes Girl*, *The Scottish Orphans*, Mrs. Blackford and Charles Lamb and his sister's purely written and simply conceived tales of *Mrs. Leicester's School*:—an excellent selection, sound in taste and feeling, of books worthy to enter, as such books will, into the texture of the mind through life.

Sister Mary's Stories about Animals, a volume which has the guarantee of the London Society for promoting Christian Knowledge; *The Nursery Gift*, with alphabets and pictures for young "beginners"; *Hints for Happy Hours*, a book of conversations, games and amusements; a collected volume of *Mrs. Hofland*, with three of her best stories, and a new variety of Robinson Crusoe with that eminently historical sort of personage, as Mr. Thackeray justly considers him, under a cold atmosphere in Canada, where he will want his goat skins quite as much as he did in the Pacific; a cheerful and instructive volume by a sister of Agnes Strickland, Catharine Parr Neil—complete Messrs. Francis' latest instalment of holiday books.

CROSEY, NICHOLS & Co., supply another series, *Uncle James's Library for Boys and Girls*, with several volumes of birds and animals for children "of a smaller growth," which the avidity of several of these young people certifies to us as interesting. There is one volume about Christmas Eve, &c., from the German, a source always of wonderment, and another contains Mrs. Blackford's *Eskdale Herd-Boy*. We have also from the same publishers a series of attractive volumes in small 4to. *The Road to Fortune*, *Finnikin and his Gold Pippins*, *Sadler Muller Wendall*, *Tony the Sleepless*, the staple of which is a magazine collection of poetry, legend, wild invention, natural history, and such genuine Christmas ingredients, interspersed with abundant wood cuts, well drawn, and in a picturesque, unhackneyed style. The contents of these books are novel, and a large step beyond the old Peter Parleys, &c.

From Messrs. Parker, Mussey & Co., Boston, we have volumes 16 and 17 of their convenient edition of the *Waverley Novels*, embracing two strongly contrasted novels, "*St. Ronan's Well*," a novel of modern life and society at a watering place, and the historical romance "*Red Gauntlet*." These, like the other volumes of this edition, are illustrated. They are in the same compact, convenient form, and large type. The edition is, we need scarcely repeat, suited to all ages, and tastes, by its variety of good qualities.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW HAVEN, November 20, 1852.

To the Editors of the Literary World:

GENTLEMEN,—A few days since I received a letter from Professor Charles C. Rafn, of Copenhagen, requesting me to aid in giving publicity to two printed communications accompanying his letter, namely: (1). A brief sketch of the Discovery of America by the

Northmen, which was prepared by Professor Rafn in consequence of his having noticed misstatements of the facts respecting that discovery in a work recently published in this country; and (2) a programme of the British and Irish Section of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries. These communications I take pleasure in sending to you for publication in the Literary World, not doubting that you will be happy to contribute to the rectification of any error which may have crept into American books on the subject of the discovery of this country in the tenth century, as well as to the promotion of the plan of the British and Irish Section of the R. Soc. of N. Antiquaries. It may be proper, in this connexion, to refer the reader to an able review of Rafn's *Antiquitates Americane* in the North American for 1838, volume 46, and to a pamphlet by Professor Rafn, entitled *America Discovered in the Tenth Century*, which was published by William Jackson, New York, in 1838. E. E. S.

"THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA BY THE NORTHMEN."

"The following short sketch has been written at the request of several persons abroad. It may be of use for insertion in, or in preparing articles for, Educational works, Encyclopædians, the Journals of Historical Societies and other similar works, through which it may be wished to give still further publicity to historical facts so important. They have, indeed, already been referred to in some books of this kind, but often with considerable errors.

"The present paper is communicated by Charles C. Rafn, and is founded on his work, '*Antiquitates Americane sive Scriptores Septentrionales rerum Ante-Columbianarum in America*,' published by him in 1837, through the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries of Copenhagen.

"The Dane Gardar, of Swedish origin, was the first Northman who discovered Iceland, in 863. Only a few out-places of this country had been visited previously, about 70 years before, by Irish hermits. Eleven years subsequently, or in 874, the Norwegian Ingolf began the colonisation of the country, which was completed during a space of 60 years. The colonists, many of whom belonged to the most illustrious and most civilized families in the North, established in Iceland a flourishing Republic. Here, on this distant isle-rock, the Old Northern language was preserved unchanged for centuries, and here in the *Eddas* were treasured those Folk-songs and Folk-myths, and in the *Sagas* those historical Tales and Legends, which the first settlers had brought with them from their Scandinavian mother lands. Iceland was therefore the cradle of an historical literature of immense value.

"The situation of the island and the relationship of the colony to foreign countries in its earlier period, compelled the inhabitants to exercise and develop their hereditary maritime skill and thirst for new discoveries across the great ocean. As early as the year 877, Gunnbjörn saw for the first time the mountainous coast of Greenland. But this land was first visited by Erik the Red, in 983, who, three years afterwards, in 986, by means of Icelandic emigrants, established the first colony on its south-western shore, where afterwards, in 1124, a Bishop's See was founded, which subsisted for upwards of 300 years. The head firths or bays were named after the chiefs of the expedition. Erik the Red settled in Eriks-firth, Einar, Rafn and Ketil in the firths called after them, and Heriulf on Heriulfnes. On a voyage from Iceland to Greenland this same year (986), Biarne, the son of the latter, was driven far out to sea towards the south-west, and for the first time beheld the coasts of the American lands, afterwards visited and named by his countrymen. In order to ex-

amine these countries more narrowly, Leif the Fortunate, son of Erik the Red, undertook a voyage of discovery thither in the year 1000. He landed on the shores described by Biarne, detailed the character of these lands more exactly, and gave them names according to their appearance: Helluland (*Newfoundland*) was so called from its flat stones, Markland (*New Scotland*) from its woods, and Vineland (*New England*) from its vines. Here he remained for some time, and constructed large houses, called after him Leifsbúdir (*Leif's Booths*). A German named Tyrker, who accompanied Leif on this voyage, was the man who found the wild vines, which he recognised from his having seen them in his own land, and Leif gave the country its name from this circumstance. Two years afterwards Leif's brother, Thorwald, repaired thither, and in 1003 caused an expedition to be undertaken to the South, along the shore, but he was killed in the summer of 1004 on a voyage northwards, in a skirmish with the natives.

"The most distinguished, however, of all the first American discoverers is Thorfin Karlsefne, an Icelfander, whose genealogy is carried back in the Old Northern annals to Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Scottish and Irish ancestors, some of them of royal blood. In 1006 this chief on a merchant voyage visited Greenland and there married Gudrid, the widow of Thorstein (son of Erik the Red), who had died the year before in an unsuccessful expedition to Vineland. Accompanied by his wife, who encouraged him to this voyage, and by a crew of 160 men on board three vessels, he repaired in the spring of 1007 to Vineland, where he remained for three years, and had many communications with the aborigines. Here his wife Gudrid bore him a son Snorre, who became the founder of an illustrious family in Iceland, which gave that island several of its first Bishops. His daughter's son was the celebrated Bishop Thorlak Runolfson, who published the first Christian Code of Iceland. In 1121 Bishop Erik sailed to Vineland from Greenland, doubtless for the purpose of strengthening his countrymen in their Christian faith.

"The notices given by the old Icelandic voyage-chroniclers respecting the climate, the soil and productions of this new country are very characteristic. Nay, we have even a statement of this kind as old as the eleventh century, from a writer not a Northman, Adam of Bremen; he states, on the authority of Svein Estridson the king of Denmark, a nephew of Canute the Great, that the country got its name from the vine growing wild there. It is a remarkable coincidence in this respect that its English re-discoverers, for the same reason, named the large island which is close off the coast *Martha's Vineyard*. Spontaneously growing wheat (maize or Indian corn) was also found in this country.

"In the meantime it is the total result of the nautical, geographical and astronomical evidences in the original documents, which places the situation of the countries discovered, beyond all doubt. The number of days' sail between the several newly-found lands, the striking description of the coasts, especially the white sand banks of New Scotland and the long beaches and downs of a peculiar appearance on Cape Cod (the Kialames and Furdstrandir of the Northmen) are not to be mistaken. In addition hereto we have the astronomical remark that the shortest day was 9 hours long, which fixes the latitude of $41^{\circ} 24' 10''$, or just that of the promontories which limit the entrances to Mount Hope Bay, where Leif's booths were built, and in the district around which the old Northmen had their head establishment, which they called Hóp."

"ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES OF COPENHAGEN.—BRITISH AND IRISH SECTION.

"The Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries endeavors to carry out its proposed objects so far as its limited means extend. During the

first twenty-five years of its existence it has published 80 volumes. The Old Northern literature is, however, of a considerable extent, and many of its treasures remain as yet unpublished and unavailable. The Arna-Magnæan collection alone contains about 2000 volumes of Old Northern manuscripts, and besides these, not a few are to be found in other public libraries, especially in Denmark and Sweden. The invaluable collection mentioned above, which must be regarded as the most important, in a scientific view, of all the archeological collections in Northern Europe is preserved at the Round Tower in the same locality as the Library of the University, and is accessible to the public, every week-day from 12 to 3.

"The frequent intercourse, which was maintained from the oldest times between the Scandinavian North and the British Isles, is the cause of there being found in the ancient writings of the North a considerable number of documents relating to the earlier times of those Islands. The publication of an edition of these has long been contemplated, but the time and the ability necessary to the successful accomplishment of such a task have been hitherto occupied by other undertakings previously commenced. The war also, in which Denmark became involved, was the cause of an unavoidable delay. The conclusion of peace, in which England especially exhibited so warm a sympathy, can be considered as a fortunate moment for the realization of this plan, and particularly since the other and larger works are now in part finished, and in part approaching completion.

"It is expected that the sympathy of Great Britain and Ireland, as well as of North America and other countries, where an interest in English history and the English language has been extended, will be enlisted for an undertaking which so closely concerns British and Irish history. Upon this sympathy will depend the compass and size of the work. In the Society's Guide to Northern Archaeology edited for the use of English readers by the Earl of Ellesmere, London, 1848, Introduction p. x-xvi, a desire is expressed for the publication of a work of this character. The first step towards this will be the preparation and issue of a new critical edition of the Orkneying Saga in the ancient Icelandic or Old Northern text accompanied by an English translation with explanatory dissertations and comments, and elucidations of the antiquities of Scotland drawn from ancient Icelandic or Old Northern manuscripts. Of the plates which shall accompany such a work, two Historical Maps of the Shetland Islands and of the Orkneys with the northern part of Scotland have been already prepared by an efficient fellow-laborer in Norway. It is especially in this work, after repeated and urgent requests from the British Islands themselves, that participation is invited according to the following conditions:

"I. The British and Irish Section consists of those of the Society's Members who will especially promote the publication of the above named work, and besides Participants or Associates who may choose to enter into the plan. Libraries and other institutions can also become Participants.

"II. The yearly contribution of Participants or Associates shall be one Guinea, for which they will receive—as a full equivalent according to the usual regulations—the periodical works on Northern archaeology and history published by the Society since their admission, and the proposed edition of the Saga of the Orkneys. The preparation of this will be commenced immediately after the reception of the names of one hundred Participants, and its completion is anticipated within three years, after which the printing will be immediately proceeded with. These conditions will be binding for seven years, during which time the Associates will receive at least ten octavo volumes and an Atlas for Northern Archaeology in imperial quarto, containing 27

plates, among which will be found the two Maps above mentioned of the Shetland Islands and of the Orkneys with the northern part of Scotland; moreover 21 plates with the weapons from the age of bronze in the North, together with the gold bracteates and the two golden horns found at Mögeltönder with mythical representations from the iron age. Of these plates 25 are already drawn and 14 engraved on steel.

"The first package will be forwarded to the Associates in the summer of 1852. The annual contributions are reckoned from 1852 inclusive, and are to be paid to one of the Society's Agents every year before the end of the month of December. Every Associate has the option to pay down the first annual contribution immediately; it is likewise optional with every one to pay the contribution in advance for several years at a time, or, to save trouble, for all the seven years at once. The books will be forwarded free of all charge for freight to one of the Society's Agents in London, Leith, New York, or St. Croix; whereas the charges for duty or the like, if such should be incurred, will be apportioned among the parcels.

"III. Associates are not Members of the Society. The admission as Fellows or Founders can only take place by means of a proposition through the Managing Committee, which may be addressed to the Secretary.

"IV. Those who are interested in this matter and especially in promoting the publication of the Orkneying Saga, and who desire to become Participants or Associates, will please to communicate their wishes to one of the Society's Agents. No separate correspondence with the Secretary, concerning the above object, will be necessary, except from places where communication with him should be more convenient.

"The Managing Committee of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, Copenhagen, August 26, 1851.

C. F. WEGENER.
CHAS. C. RAFFN.
J. F. MAGNUSSEN."

"This Programme is recommended particularly to the Officers and Members of the Historical and Archeological Societies and other Scientific Institutions in the British Islands and America, in connexion with the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries.

"AGENTS OF THE SOCIETY.—London—C. J. Hambro & Son, No. 70 Old Broad street, City; New York—Boorman, Johnston & Co.; St. Croix—Frederick Frederichsen, Esq., Counsellor of Justice."

GRAY'S ELEGY.

CAN anything new be said of this poem? Perhaps not. At any rate, what is here to be said may not be new to any who will read it, however new to him who writes it.

First; as to the stanza,—

"Their name, their years, spelt by the unlettered Muse
The place of fame and elegy supply;
And many a holy text around she strews
To teach the rustic moralist to die.

Why fame and elegy? Such a coupling, in such a connexion, seems as incongruous as

"Her heart and morning broke together."

Besides, *fame* can hardly be the poet's meaning. In a previous stanza, he cautions the "Proud" against thinking ill of the "rude forefathers of the hamlet," because memory has raised no "trophies," no "storied urn or animated bust" over their tombs: for, he goes on to intimate, that they may have possessed all the qualities of greatness, though "their lot" never called them into action. And he presently comes to the conclusion expressed in the stanza above quoted.

Hence, *fane* and elegy—that is, monument or mausoleum, and elegy—might be what the poet intended and wrote.

Again; the first stanza of the Epitaph—which is in fact, the Muse's autobiography—runs thus:—

"Here rests his head upon the lap of earth
A youth to Fortune and to Fame unknown;
Fair Science frowned not on his humble birth,
And Melancholy marked him for her own."

Why should "fair Science" do so uncongenial an act as to *frown*? Fair Science should either *smile* or turn her head away: she ought not to frown. But, waiving the question of fitness, and coming to the question of fact; here was a youth whose history, so far as we can gather it from the context, was a perfect illustration of the

— "flower born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air;"

He lived and died in utter obscurity: hence, Fair Science *did* frown, or rather did not smile, on his humble birth; and hence the line should read—

"Fair science smiled not on his humble birth;"

To say that Science "frowned not" on his birth, is, in effect, to say that Science smiled on his birth: yet the precedent history gives no evidence of the smile: it is a brief record of a life of loneliness, penury, and neglect.

Finally; it is a pity that a poem so nearly perfect should contain one prominent instance of a sacrifice of sense to sound. In the following stanza *chance* is written for *perchance* because, apparently, the latter would have made the line too long by one syllable:—

"For thee, who, mindful of the unhonored dead,
Dost in these lines their artless tale relate,
If chance, by lonely contemplation led,
Some kindred spirit shall inquire thy fate,

"Haply some hoary-headed swain may say," &c.

QUIVIS.

PENNSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY CELEBRATION.

THE one hundred and third anniversary of this Institution was celebrated on the 16th inst., in Philadelphia, by a dinner, of which there is a full report in the *North American*. The various toasts and speeches were a full commemoration of the reminiscences and prospective glances into the future due to such an occasion. Professor Henry Reed, replying in behalf of the Faculty of Arts, introduced the following reference to an incident of the last days of Wellington:—

"My thoughts as a graduate among fellow-graduates turn to the social enjoyment of this scene, and the pleasant memories which are revived by it. But when I look with the mind's eye from the other point of vision, the festal spirit is—I will not say rebuked—but overshadowed by a sense of official responsibility, and I am almost tempted to ask for the University something more than annual festivities—tempted to apply the words which a poet gives to the Greek minstrel, addressing his festive countrymen;

"You have the Pyrrhic dance as yet:
Where is the Pyrrhic phalanx gone?
Of two such lessons why forget
The nobler and the manlier one?"

"It may be asked how are the Alumni to manifest their filial piety. I will not say that we want your money—although it is the sinews of education as well as of war, and the cause of high education might be greatly advanced by ampler endowments. Confining myself to humbler demands, I would say that we crave your

friendly interest, especially in these times of educational agitation,—when here, as in England, University extension is one of the topics of the day. During the last summer I received from an English correspondent, connected with the Government commission on the University of Oxford, a copy of the report—one of the 'blue books'—a formidable folio of some seven hundred pages, in which an American University Professor may find much to interest him—although, let me say in passing, that analogies from foreign institutions of every kind are often very delusive, and that I have no faith in building up little Oxfords on this side of the Atlantic, or of mimicking the Universities of Germany. While I was engaged in the examination of the report, intelligence came of the death of the Duke of Wellington, and among the particulars of his last days, we are told that his last labor was the study of that huge volume. The coincidence was a quaint and impressive one. I certainly never expected to find myself, in my professional pursuits, a fellow-student of 'The Iron Duke.' It seemed to me an impressive thought, that the eagle eye of the great soldier of the age—the eye which, in former years, looked on the battle fields of India, from the lines of Torres Vedras, and on the carnage of the plain of Waterloo—the eye which had looked on fellow-diplomatists at the great Congresses of Europe, and on his fellow statesmen at the council-board of his sovereign—that that eye should have bestowed its last laborious look in solitary study upon this academic book. That a great warrior and statesman's long life of duty should close with such a labor, is surely no insignificant proof of the spirit of the age.

"Let me very briefly refer to this incident, for another purpose; it is full of admonition to every one—all the world over—who would take part, either by word or deed, in the work of educational change or reform. The example of the Duke teaches that the first duty is to know well what is doing, and how it is done—to find out the good in it, and to make that good the vantage-ground from which the advance may be made to the doing more and more good in the cause of Education. Such, it seems to me, is the lesson to be learned from the last labor of him whose body will to-morrow be borne to its resting-place beneath the dome of St. Paul's, attended—if not by greater pomp—by greater respect than that which followed Marlborough or Nelson to the grave."

A compliment on American History, levelled personally at C. J. Ingersoll, brought out these characteristic sentences:—

"Though not belonging to the College of Pennsylvania, I was in the grammar school in those good old times, when I heard the excellent Latin master, Dr. Davidson, give notice that he would flog any boy who came to his class with the then outlandish innovation of suspenders, called gallowases; for he said all boys ought to be flogged who could not keep up their breeches without such things.

"But four of my six sons are graduates of this University, where a grandson has just matriculated. Thirty-six feet of boys, six averaging six feet each, with a grandson of like longitude for the second edition, is doing something for this growing country, and the University of Pennsylvania, independent of history.

"As to that, I have been tinkering at it between forty and fifty years.

"Upwards of forty years ago I made a then audacious attempt, by, to be sure, an anonymous, and, indeed, fictitious essay, to vindicate the much despised literature, the history, poetry, religion and morals of our country.

"Several years afterwards that work was followed up by another, in a discourse submitted through the American Philosophical Society, 'On the influence of America on the mind,'

"And, finally, during the last ten years, historical sketches, meditated, and for which materials were collected during the last twenty years, have been issued in several volumes, of which the two last have just been published. This labor of love is to show how this Republican confederacy, where the people declare war and the Executive makes peace, waged its war against one of the great Empires where the Executive declares war and the people make peace.

"History of events in past ages is apt to be theory, fancy, and speculation, however attractively written.

"Contemporaneous history, by one who undertakes to tell what he says he saw, or heard, and knows, taxes the most difficult of qualifications—capacity to discover, and firmness to tell the truth.

"War narrative unavoidably deals with hard thoughts and hard words. My study has been to curb prejudices; and Deacon Dick Ingersoll was always at my elbow to remind me that, after all, it was a family quarrel.

"Voltaire says of Herodotus, called the father of history, that he does not lie *always*. Hume, when hard pressed by an opponent, who at last told him, 'why, sir, it is in your own history'—is reported to have replied, 'Damn my history.'

"These suggestive comments on the imperfection of all historical composition, I submit as an appropriate peroration of the little speech provoked by your kind toast."

One of the best points of the evening was certainly William B. Reed's plea for

THE LITERARY CULTURE OF THE LAWYER.

"All that I mean to say is a word in behalf of our University lawyers—our college bred lawyers—Latin and Greek lawyers—lawyers who, like our invited guest, Mr. Ingersoll, gained their college honors elsewhere; lawyers like you, Mr. President, who begun your professional life with the study of polite letters, and are not ashamed of it. I want to say a word for a class of men who are often sneered at; I mean literary lawyers, men who read something beside law, and who are proud of it. They may not be as successful in the common sense of the word—they may not make as much money—they may not break themselves down in the prime of life and youth by overwork in one line of labor—they may not leave behind them the traditionary fame of being embalmed in law Reports. But they live for something else and for something better than all this. I have often thought that the most pitiable of all conditions the world has ever known, must have been that of an old maid in the middle ages—one who was neither man to fight, nor wife, nor mother—and had no novels or poetry to read. But I think now the most pitiable of all conditions for a man to be in this age, whose literary enjoyments are so rich and plenty, is that of a mere lawyer who has no enjoyment aside from his hard daily drudgery, even of a Saturday afternoon. It is not necessary for true professional success. The ablest lawyers I have ever known were men of high literary accomplishment, who studied the modern languages, who were good classical scholars, and who were first honors men. Mr. Binney was a first honor man at Harvard. Mr. Sergeant spoke the valedictory, a high honor, at Princeton. Mr. Ingersoll, our Minister at England, was a first honor man at Princeton, too; and to this hour those eminent men, one standing on the very edge of life—and find their pleasure, and their comfort, too, in the polite literature which, in active life, relieved their labors. The greediest and hardest miscellaneous reader I have ever known, is my friend who answered the first toast (Mr. Meredith), who certainly has had his full share of professional success. Literature lingers when law has gone forever. When Mr. Webster was dying, the last worldly consolation that he had

were some words of poetry floating on the memory. He didn't think of the Statute of Frauds or of the fourth article of the Constitution. And so, Mr. President, it always will be; and literary lawyers, let them be disparaged as they may, cannot be deprived of this high pleasure or this rich consolation. Nay, more, Mr. President, the literary lawyer—he who knows and is proud of something beside law—has a fame which is worth gaining and securing, too. Whose fame will endure the longest, or shine the brightest, Coke or Bacon, Lord Kenyon or Lord Mansfield, Eldon or Campbell? Coke, and Kenyon, and Eldon, were far the greatest lawyers, but will not Bacon and Mansfield live and be worshipped much the longest?—and where would Eldon or all the mute chancellors be, if there had not been a Chief Justice to write their lives?

THE WIFE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

[From the London Correspondent of the *Liverpool Albion*.]

ANOTHER error into which the great and of course the lesser journals fell,—but that has been corrected already,—was the alleged instructions of the Duke that he should be buried in the picturesque little churchyard of Strathfieldsaye beside the Duchess—an announcement that was at first received with implicit credence, for though not exactly in keeping with the supposed superiority of the mighty dead to tender emotions, everybody had at last learned to deem everything characteristic of the Duke, and this amongst them, though there were sceptics, of course. And thereby hangs a tale. This post mortem and posthumous uxoriousness of the feruginous F. M. seems to have astonished most people, who wonder how “love through all the mail of iron heart should glide” in such a case as his. True, there were *on dits* afloat during the duchess' life time, to the effect that the most noble Arthur would be by no means a successful candidate for the Dunmow fitch had he been gammoned into going the total animal in competition for that chine which is said to reward him who has had no bone to pick with his rib for a year and a day. But it is to be remembered that the Duke had been a very paragon of chivalry towards his lady love under circumstances the bare recollection of which might well revive the marital sentiment of honeymoonism even a quarter of a century after its object had passed away. He was always gallant, in the Cupidian as well as the armigerous sense of the term, from the time he was a young bog-trotter, shooting jack-snipes in the morasses round Trim, up to within a few months of his death, when, as was stated here, he had very nearly been made a defendant in a breach of promise by a *Gay Spanker* sort of widow, sister of a high Tory earl, now in a high place. Having set her heart on the ducal strawberry, she cared not, like a true daughter of Eve, if she went to Beelzebub in getting a nibble at the forbidden fruit, which she didn't, but was bitten herself by the F.M.'s old file of a lawyer, who didn't show that he was a wolf in sheep's skin till he had got the parchments, whereupon he left her to bleat at her leisure after the golden fleece, she had been wool gathering about, but of which she had proved a disappointed “clipper.” Arthur never had an affair of the heart all this while but one; and that one ended in a marriage as romantic as though concocted for novel or drama by Sir E. L. B. L. himself, who, by the way, may be expected to make his maiden speech on the Duke, and *Pelham* panegyricizing Achilles will be something to stare at. Young

Wesley wooed but did not win Catherine Pakenham, daughter of the Earl of Longford, whose seat was close by Dangan Castle, in the county of Meath, afterwards the residence of Feargus O'Connor's family, and now gone to the dogs by being appropriated to the pigs. *Gloria virtutis umbra*—renown is the shadow [i.e. the constant companion.] of virtue, was the motto of the earl; but as he could see little virtue in a penniless ensign in a marching regiment of foot, it is to be supposed that he disbelieved in the likelihood of much praise, and still less of solid pudding, falling to the lot of the embryo grace, but then graceless scapegrace, who wanted to be his son-in-law; for Arthur had a sort of Marquis of Waterford repute at the time, and had just astonished the denizens of the beautiful city called Cork by helping to carry home in a sedan chair their most beautiful citizeness, the lovely Mrs. Woocock, [afterwards wife of the Hon. Haly Huthinson,] the other “chairman” being afterwards Lord Limerick, upon whose “exterminations” and excesses of all sorts the Liberator used to be furious.

This sedan business took place under the Viceroyalty of Lord Westmoreland, about sixty-two years ago, before many men who have been grandfathers these dozen years back were born. Well, our ensign, as we said, having nothing but his epaulettes, got the cold shoulder from Kate's papa; and, accordingly, in a fit of the sulks, set off for the land of blue devils and disasters, Holland, where the French were making the Dutch caper like Bedouin Arabs, and were causing John Bull to perform hornpipes by no means to the tune of “Jack's the Lad.” Returning to England, he sailed from the coast of Norfolk to pepper the Prince of Curry Powder, Tippoo Saib, which he did most capsicumly; and then, coming back with the spoils of Seringapatam, Longford shortly jumped to the conclusion that he was most virtuous because he had been most fortunate, and suggested that Miss Pakenham should forthwith become Mrs. Wellesley, for so the patronymic was now spelt by command of the head of the family, the Indian Marquis; and, strange enough, at the same time Napoleon, knocked out the *u* of his family name to un-Italianize it. But there was difficulty in the way which must have daunted Arthur more than did the passage of the Douro a couple of years after; yet he got over all as he alone could. He had been some fifteen or sixteen years away; was of the very anti-enthusiastic age of 38; the lady was not only no longer young, but no longer even passably pretty; and had had the small-pox in a very marked manner. Nevertheless, like a true knight as he ever was through life, prizing veracity before and above all things, he kept his word, wed her, and ever treated her with respect, though neither Scipio, or Scipio's equally-continent competitor, Hannibal, is at all the military-moral character in antiquity to whom it would be judicious to compare him if one were to draw “parallels” *à la* Plutarch. She on her part adored him above all things, just as Josephine loved Napoleon, even more than a new bonnet, or as Sarah loved John Duke of Marlborough beyond her money-bags and beyond her revenge, these three decidedly “strong-minded females” scorning the green-eyed monster that gives nervous ladies the jaundice. The Duchess of Wellington was pre-eminently proud of her stupendous spouse, and of everything that belonged to him, and used

to feed his famous charger, Copenhagen, with bread out of her own hand in the paddock at Strathfieldsaye, the highest honor ever paid to a horse since Caligula made his steed a consul and gave him gilt oats; though seeing the asses the stable-minded Derbyites are now installing in the same office, and the pecuniary provender they are giving them, the emperor can't be considered so much of a rum 'un by our bovine official Goths. How uniform has been the devotion of the fair to the brave in all times and climes! yet not always with adequate return, as we have seen in the case of the great Carthaginian, and of him who was called Africanus from opposing him. Then there was Tilly, one of the most eminent commanders in the Thirty Years' War, modest enough to be inquisitor-general of Nunneries under Mr. Lacy's proposed act, without giving offence to Wiseman. And there were many renowned captains of the Velluti order, who, however, instead of singing small themselves, made their enemies do it for them, and pay the piper at the same time; such was Narses, the Persian, who rescued Italy from the Ostrogoths; also Sigismond Battori, and others. And even those to whom the privileges of paternity were not denied, scarcely any direct representative of a great name exists—none of Cromwell, Gustavus, Turenne, Condé, Wallenstein, Eugene, Monk, Marlborough, Saxe, Frederick, Napoleon; nor of great seamen—Von Tromp, Ruiter, Blake, Howe, Jervis, Nelson, and many more. And how long will there be a direct heir to Wellington—with one sickly child of six years old the sole representative in the second generation now, and no likelihood of others to follow? But let us not think of that now. What is the use of having another of the name unless we had another of the nature of Wellington, and it is against the nature of things in general that there should ever be such another particular personage.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

Auburn, November 27, 1852.

Messrs. Editors *New York Literary World*:—

Noticing in the various letters in your journal the interest you take in local matters, showing the influence and extension of the book craft in different directions, I venture one from Auburn. In cities like Boston, New York or Philadelphia the daily issue of numerous books, and some of them large undertakings, is so common a branch of trade as not to excite a thought: there seems plenty of reason for the enterprise in the host of busy, intelligent-looking people visible alone; but to go away off through towns, villages, forests, stump fields, clearings, and find, hundreds of miles from those great cities, in some small place, water power and steam at work throwing out books of all classes, and clear, busy heads planning their sale and disposal, thrusting information into the poorest log-hut—this may over and over again excite our thought and imagination. Though that such things are, is well known, yet people who have not been on the spot of some such centre cannot appreciate the originality and boldness, and the sagacity and perseverance which plans and directs these western publishing establishments, nor how peculiarly they exert a good influence in their respective circles. Auburn is a place of a moment's existence comparing it with the oldness of centuries possessed by old world organizations. Its natural beauty of situation is undisputed. The altitude and purity of air, the rich-

new and the undulating variety of the land and scenery in the immediate neighborhood, and contiguity to the several small lakes, as Cayuga, all deserve this. Genesee street, the principal one, promises to be as fine a one as Main street, Buffalo, and there is no street in Syracuse or Rochester equal to it. Here you find the Court House, American Hotel, market, several first-rate dry goods stores, and a restaurant—Leonard's—that would pass in New York; here also are the counting-houses and sales-rooms of Messrs. Derby & Co., Alden & Co., and Mr. Iverson. In other directions are the churches, dwelling-houses, the Theological Seminary, &c. With all this, travel very little out of Auburn and you will see "stump fields" and "wood cutting" enough.

Mr. Iverson does not publish much—his business is principally dealing in the books of other houses, and school books. He has a very good store—the oldest, I believe, in the place. His brother, long in business here, is now one of that respectable firm Newman, Iverson & Co., of New York.

The business of Messrs. Derby & Miller, and Messrs. Alden, Beardsley & Co., is an exemplification of what I mention in the foregoing: they exhibit a peculiar readiness in applying machinery and country labor to the manufacture of books, with a reward of increasing success. The last September trade list of Messrs. Alden, Beardsley & Co. contains 53 different works, divided into school-books, juvenile stories, agriculture, history, politics, biography, and miscellaneous. These are bound in various styles of binding, to suit the taste and ability of the purchasers, some—a Bible for instance—in six styles, from \$3 to \$5 50. The number of pages to each work are given on this list; they amount to 14,244; taking an average sale of each book at 500 copies, this would give 7,122,000 (over seven million) pages annually scattered among the families of the west. The average sale is probably nearer 1000 copies of each, as the addition of new books to the list more than compensates for the dying out of the demand for some one or two: suppose at 1000 copies a year, and taking the present list as stationary, the number of pages printed would be 14,244,000! Imagine the instruction on a single page of any good popular book, and how far it may thus be carried. I know I am not writing to a statistical journal, but there is nothing an American appreciates sooner than facts, figures, and similes; you will excuse, therefore, a few more figures. Mr. Alden told me in the course of conversation a few days since, that they had printed and sold nearly 27,000 copies of a handsome quarto Bible they publish; also that for the article of gold leaf, used in lettering and for ornamenting the covers of books, lasting a month or two only, they had paid \$363. Their consumption of printing paper averages \$2000 per month, and they keep equal to three and a half presses employed; two of them are kept at work now half the night. Messrs. Alden, Beardsley & Co. give employment to 40 people, not to mention incidental occupation given others. They have recently purchased a building known here as Hopkins' Mill, on the creek, about three quarters of a mile from their store, which they are changing and fitting into a sort of book manufactory, making the water power subservient to their purposes. This building is valued at \$10,000. The books they have in press to be published soon are: "The Great Cities of the World; in their Glory and in their Desolation"—embracing the cities of Europe, Asia, and America; with a history of the important events of their time. By John Frost, LL.D., author of numerous popular works of information and amusement. 1 vol. large 12mo. of 552 pages, fully embellished with plates, numerous illustrations and colored frontispiece and title page: "Perilous Adventures and Thrilling Incidents and Narratives of Travellers in Europe, Asia,

Africa and America, in all Periods of the World to the Present Time." By John Frost, LL.D. A large 12mo. over 450 pages, fully illustrated, and colored frontispiece and title page: "Heroines of the Crusades," embracing the biographies of the following celebrated characters, and embellished with elegant steel portraits: Adela, Countess of Blois; Eleanor, of Aquitaine; Berengaria, of Navarre; Isabella, of Angoulême; Violante, of Jerusalem; Eleanor of Castile. By C. A. Bloss, author of Bloss's Ancient History; 12mo. 500 pages: "The Farm and the Fireside, or, The Romance of Agriculture," being half-hour sketches of Life in the Country, by the Rev. John L. Blake, D.D., author of "Family Encyclopedia," "Farmers' Every Day Book," etc.; 12mo. vol., 450 pages; and "The Silver Lake Stories," an entire new series of juveniles by Sarah H. Bradford, known as a popular writer in the periodicals and journals of the day; in 6 vols. square 16mo., about 192 pages; embellished with 12 engravings in each volume; uniform in style, muslin gilt back and side, in sets comprising the following volumes: 1. The Jumble, stories in Prose and Rhyme. 2. The Old Port Folio, ditto. 3. The Green Satchel, ditto. 4. The Cornucopia, ditto. 5. Aunt Patty's Mirror, ditto. 6. The Budget, ditto.

Messrs. Derby & Miller, the other publishing firm here, must not be confounded with Derby, Orton & Co., Geneva, Derby & Co., Sandusky City, Derby & Co., Cincinnati, Derby & Co., Buffalo, &c. If I understand aright, they are separate and distinct concerns, though all originating from the enterprise of two or three brothers, and though there might be interests retained from one to the other. Owing to the death of Geo. H. Derby, Esq., of Buffalo, it is the intention to consolidate his business and the Auburn house, and from the first of January, 1853, there will be a new firm under the style of "Derby, Miller & Orton, Auburn and Buffalo. Messrs. Derby & Miller's present business—a strictly wholesale one—is immense. They give employment to upwards of 100 people continually. Above their sales-room and counting-house is a room with a steam engine for embossing, &c., and various presses; a room for folding; another for stitching and sewing; and another for making marble paper, binding, &c., and another for transient stock. Their printing is done on the opposite side of the street, and in the details of presses, work, &c., might have an account for itself. Immediately behind their premises they are building a new warehouse and factory 80 by 40 feet, and several stories high: this is additional, and under the auspices of the new firm not at all likely to be the final boundary. A peculiar feature in Messrs. Derby & Miller's business is the sale of books through travelling agents. A confidential circular giving conditions and advice is furnished to these agents on application, and they are allotted a whole county to work in. The agent buys sample copies, and with them and prospectuses he visits every mansion, farm, and log house he finds, obtains subscribers, and then revisits them again with the books and gets his money. Messrs. D. & M. have now 200 of these agents, and as the terms are very liberal, and these particular books are never, on any condition, sold to a bookseller, the agent has an excellent advantage. On an average agents effect a sale at every tenth house, and some make from \$5 to \$8 per day. A few titles show how suitable these books are to the popular kind of demand they fill; "Great Men and Great Events from the Earliest Period to the Present Time," an 8vo of 832 pages, with 300 engravings; Blake's "Farmers' Every Day Book," an 8vo of 664 pages; "Lives and Public Services of the Governors of the State of New York," an 8vo of 223 pages; Goodrich's "History of all Nations," an 8vo of 1200 pages, 700 engravings, and 10 maps. Thirteen thousand copies of a "History of the Mexican War," and 20,000 copies of a "Life of General Taylor,"

have been sold in this way. Goodrich's "History of all Nations" is worth special attention. Mr. Goodrich labored years on the work before it was published. Embracing such variety and so long a time, it was a study to make it clear and simple yet comprehensive. The arrangement is ethnographic; hence, first, the geography of each country and an account of the people is given. This is followed by a chronological history in all its details. The reader can have continually in view the place where, and the time when an event happened, &c., &c. This work cost \$11,000 to prepare for the press, and it has been told me that Messrs. Derby & Miller pay over \$8000 a year copyright on it. Their miscellaneous stock numbers only some 65 different books; the aggregate number of copies of these printed, as may be calculated from their published list, is 318,000, showing a very extraordinary popularity and a good management. The subjects of this portion are very varied: 20 books out of the 65 are biographies of eminent persons, prepared with care and at length, by such authors as W. H. Seward, E. D. Mansfield, Epes Sargent, Rev. Joseph Alden, P. C. Headley, J. L. Frost, &c. The total amount of copyrights which Messrs. Derby & Miller pay to authors and parties interested does not fall far short of \$10,000 per annum.

Messrs. Derby & Miller have twenty new books in press. Two of the most notable, and of which I have seen the proof-sheets, are, "The Australian Captive," being a true narrative of 16 years' captivity among the savages of Australia, adventures there, and final escape, &c., by Wm. Jackman; the other is, "The Complete Works of James Arminius," D.D., and formerly professor of Leyden. This last will be in two octavo volumes, of 600 pages each, and it will be the only complete edition of the works of the founder of the Arminian system ever published, the English edition by James Nichols, published in 1825, leaving untranslated one whole volume. The American translator is the Rev. W. R. Bagnall, of the New England Conference.

There is no public library here of any kind yet. The Theological Seminary has a small one, and there should be a couple of thousand volumes somewhere which belonged to a "Literary Society" now defunct. A society lettered the "S. S. of P. I." (Students' Society of Philosophical Inquiry) exists, and will probably have a library some day. This society, I am told, was originally formed in jest for burlesque purposes, but is now turned serious in its ways. Dr. Dewey lectured here this week on "American Nationality," and the fun poked at "Boydom" and "Young America" was much relished by the audience.

In connexion with Auburn one generally thinks of the "State Prison," but excepting "the outer walls," its presence is as little felt as it is at New York. A visit here, however, is not without its lesson. The cleanliness, order, and regular occupation of its inmates render the place endurable; but then those cells—to be locked up there as if in an iron safe night after night for five, ten, or fifteen years, or for life! It is a wonder those who admire the out-door life of Jack Sheppardism don't get up a drama of what is done in-doors when caught, with the clank of chains, the cells, and scenes of the hard work in wards, or punishment if stubborn. C. W. Pomeroy, Esq., the agent, and Wm. B. Smith, Esq., the clerk, are as kind and courteous officers as we have had. Mr. Smith has nearly ready the fifth annual report for the inspectors to present to the Senate; it will be printed by April next. The various statistics of nations, crimes, punishments, labor, health, effects, are very interesting.

Yours truly, O.

Messrs. HALL, MILLS & Co., Syracuse, are now publishing "Hammond's Political History of the State of New York;" "Life and Times of the late Silas Wright;" Northend's series of

"Speakers," a book by the Hon. Geo. Geddes on "Plank Roads, their construction, and the law of the State," and "Poor and Ignorant, Rich and Educated," being temperance lectures. This last book also bears imprint of W. J. Reynolds & Co., Boston.

THE KNICKERBOCKER MAGAZINE.—It was our purpose to call the attention of our readers, and especially those in the trade, to the prospectus of this work in our advertising columns. The reduction in postage will, we think, make a new era in magazine and periodical literature. The country booksellers will be especially benefited by it, for they have now an easy, cheap, and safe mode of filling their orders, be they ever so small.

AMERICAN BOOKS.

LIST OF BOOKS PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES FROM THE 23D OCT. TO THE 4TH DEC.

- Bailou (M. M.).—Biography of Rev. Hosea Ballou, by his youngest son, Malvin M. Bailou 12mo. pp. 404 (Boston, Abel Tompkins).
- Bartol (C. A.).—Discourses on the Christian Body and Form. 12mo. pp. 376 (Boston, Crosby, Nichols & Co.).
- Bond (T. E.).—A Practical Treatise on Dental Medicine. 8vo. pp. 366 (Philadelphia, Lindsay & Blakiston).
- Bourne (W. O.).—Gems from Fable-Land; a Collection of Fables Illustrated by Facts. 12mo. pp. 336 (Scribner).
- Bourne (Wm. Oland).—Little Silverstring; or, Tales and Poems for the Young. Illustrated. 12mo. pp. 256 (C. Scribner).
- Builer (Clement M.).—A Poem before the House of Convocation of Trinity College, July 23, 1832. 8vo. pp. 23 (Hartford, Haunauer & Co.).
- Byrn (M. L.).—The Complete Practical Brewer. Illustrated. 12mo. pp. 290 (Philadelphia, H. C. Baird).
- Chadwick (Mrs. J.).—Home Cookery; a Collection of Tried Receipts, both Foreign and Domestic. 12mo. pp. 160 (Boston, Crosby, Nichols & Co.).
- Creamer (Hannah G.).—Della's Doctors; or, a Glance Behind the Scenes. 12mo. pp. 362 (Fowlers & Wells).
- Covell (L. T.).—A Digest of English Grammar, Synthesis and Analytical. 12mo. pp. 218 (D. Appleton & Co.).
- Davies (G.).—Practical Mathematics, with Drawing and Mensuration applied to the Mechanic Arts. 12mo. pp. 312 (A. S. Barnes & Co.).
- Doren Van (W. H.).—Mercantile Morals; or, Thoughts for Young Men entering Mercantile Life. 16mo. pp. 437 (Scribner).
- Felton (Prof. C. C.).—Address at the Dedication of the New Building of Bristol Academy in Taunton, Aug. 25, 1832. 8vo. pp. 54 (Cambridge, Metcalf & Co.).
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